

Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 5/10/72

Attached sets forth information that a fire of unknown origin destroyed a building in Austin, Texas, which housed the Republican campaign headquarters of U. S. Senator John Tower. The Austin District Fire Chief on the scene stated there is no indication an incendiary device was used.

The Criminal Division of the Department is being advised and no investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested. U. S. Secret Service is being advised. San Antonio is being instructed to immediately advise the Bureau of developments.

CAP:WW

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WGC

DJD
jam

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NR 003 SA PLAIN

10:20 AM IMMEDIATE 5-10-72 DET MAY 10 1972

TO ACTING DIRECTOR

TELETYPE

FROM SAC, SAN ANTONIO (174-NEW) (P)

2P

b6
b7c

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Campbell	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Miller	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Ponder	_____
Mr. Bates	_____
Mr. Weikert	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FIRE OF MYSTERIOUS ORIGIN, CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS, U. S.

SENATOR JOHN TOWER, ONE FIVE ZERO ZERO GUADALUPE, AUSTIN,

TEXAS, MAY NINE - TEN, SEVENTYTWO, EID. EXPLOSIVES AND
INCENDIARY DEVICES

ON MAY TEN, INSTANT, [REDACTED] DISTRICT CHIEF,
AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT, ADVISED FIRE ALARM RECEIVED AT
ELEVEN THIRTYONE PM, MAY NINE, LAST, AT ABOVE ADDRESS.
THIS IS PRIVATE BUILDING NOT ON FEDERAL PROPERTY. [REDACTED]
ON SCENE WITHIN TWO MINUTES AND FIRE OUT OF CONTROL. HE
NOTICED ONE PLATE GLASS FRONT WINDOW BROKEN. TEN UNITS
OF AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT FOUGHT FIRE UNTIL APPROXIMATELY
TWO A. M. BUILDING TOTAL LOSS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] GUARD, PHARES PROTECTIVE SYSTEMS, INC.,
AUSTIN, WAS ON DUTY AT APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN THIRTY P. M.,
MAY NINE, LAST, WHEN HE HEARD GLASS BREAK IN FRONT OF
BUILDING. FOUND FRONT OFFICE OF BUILDING FILLED WITH

END PAGE ONE

56 MAY 22 1972

ACTING
DIRECTOR

UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING
5-

6 MAY 15 1972

SA 174-NEW

PAGE TWO

HEAVY BLACK SMOKE NECESSITATING HIS LEAVING BUILDING.
TO USE PAY TELEPHONE TO REPORT FIRE.

EXACT CAUSE OF FIRE UNKNOWN AND NO INDICATION
INCENDIARY DEVICE USED BUT FIRE INSPECTORS ARE
INSPECTING DEBRIS TO DETERMINE CAUSE OF FIRE AND
SAN ANTONIO WILL FOLLOW AND KEEP BUREAU ADVISED.
END

RMS FBI WA DC CLR

2 cc - 15D
1 cc - CD
1 cc - VCR
5/10/72
[Signature]

b6
b7C

- | |
|---------------|
| b6 |
| Mr. Tolson |
| Mr. Felt |
| Mr. Campbell |
| Mr. Rosen |
| Mr. Mohr |
| Mr. Bishop |
| Mr. Miller |
| Mr. Callahan |
| Mr. Casper |
| Mr. Conrad |
| Mr. Dalbey |
| Mr. Cleveland |
| Mr. Ponder |
| Mr. Bates |
| Mr. Waikart |
| Mr. Walters |
| Mr. Soyars |
| Tele. Room |
| Miss Holmes |
| Miss Gandy |

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 10 1972

TELETYPE

NR 005 SA PLAIN

11:50AM URGENT 5-10-72 DET

TO ACTING DIRECTOR

FROM SAN ANTONIO (174-NEW) (P)

1P

FIRE OF MYSTERIOUS ORIGIN, CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS, U. S. SENATOR
JOHN TOWER, ONE FIVE ZERO ZERO GUADALUPE, AUSTIN, TEXAS, NIGHT
OF MAY NINE - TEN, SEVENTYTWO. EID.

REMYTEL, MAY TEN, INSTANT.

ON MAY TEN, INSTANT, [REDACTED] FIRE MARSHAL, FIRE
 DEPARTMENT, AUSTIN, TEXAS, ADVISED PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION
 REVEALS FIRE WAS ACCIDENTAL AND MAIN AREA OF FIRE APPEARED TO
 BE ON SECOND FLOOR IN REAR OF BUILDING.

NO INDICATION OF INCENDIARY DEVICE.

SAN ANTONIO FOLLOWING AND WILL KEEP BUREAU ADVISED.

END

DSS FBI WA DC CLR

REC-35
EX-114

174 - 3082-2

16 MAY 12 1972

UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING

41-16
56 MAY 22 1972

5-00

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 10 1972

TELETYPE

NR010 SA PLAIN

5:19 PM NITEL 5-10-72 JGF

TO ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, SAN ANTONIO (174-646) (P)

b6
Mr. Tb7C
Mr. Felt
Mr. Campbell
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Miller, E
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Casper
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Dalbey
Mr. Cleveland
Mr. Ponder
Mr. Bates
Mr. Waikart
Mr. Walters
Mr. Soyars
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

FIRE OF MYSTERIOUS ORIGIN, CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS,
U.S. SENATOR JOHN TOWER, ONE FIVE ZERO ZERO GUADALUPE,
AUSTIN, TEXAS, NIGHT OF MAY NINE - TEN, SEVENTYTWO, EID.

REMYTELS MAY TEN, INSTANT.

ON MAY TEN INSTANT, [REDACTED] FIRE MARSHAL,
FIRE DEPARTMENT, AUSTIN, TEXAS, FURNISHED FOLLOWING
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

PIECES OF CARPET APPEARED TO BE SOAKED WITH A FLAMMABLE
LIQUID FOUND IN BUILDING. GASSES MAY HAVE ACCUMULATED IN AREA.
UNDERNEATH A DESK NEAR A WINDOW WHICH HAD BEEN BROKEN A
ROCK APPROXIMATELY TWELVE TO FOURTEEN INCHES LONG AND TWO TO
THREE INCHES IN DIAMETER AND WEIGHING TEN TO TWELVE POUNDS WAS
FOUND. [REDACTED]

END PAGE ONE

REC-35
EX-116

FOR U. S.

3082-3

16 MAY 12 1972

UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING
5- [REDACTED]

4174
55 MAY 22 1972

SA 174-646

PAGE TWO

SENATOR JOHN TOWER, ADVISED FIRE MARSHAL ROCK NOT IN THE BUILDING PRIOR TO DISCOVERY BY AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL THIS DATE. ORIGIN OF ROCK UNKNOWN.

CARPET PIECES AND LIQUIDS USED IN REPRODUCTION MACHINES BY CAMPAIGN STAFF HAVE BEEN FURNISHED BY AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT TO U.S. TREASURY (ATFD) FOR ANALYSIS.

IN ABSENCE OF ANY NEW EVIDENCE, HE WOULD CONCLUDE THAT FIRE STARTED ACCIDENTALLY ON SECOND FLOOR IN VICINITY OF UPHOLSTERED SOFA.

U. S. SECRET SERVICE, AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ATFD ADVISED OF ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION.

SAN ANTONIO WILL MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT AND ADVISE BUREAU.

END

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b7c

Airtel

1 -

[Redacted]

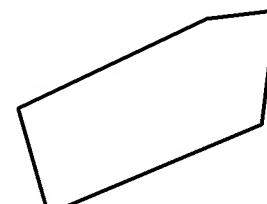
5/12/72

To: SAC, San Antonio (174-646)

From: Acting Director

REC-19 74-3082-4

FIRE OF MYSTERIOUS ORIGIN, CAMPAIGN
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. SENATOR JOHN TOWER,
1500 GUADALUPE, AUSTIN, TEXAS, NIGHT OF
5/9-10/72
EID



Reurtels 5/10 and 5/11/72.

If not already done, submit an LHM by return mail.

CAP:lac (4)

NOTE:

During the night of 5/9-10/72, the building in Austin, Texas, which houses the campaign headquarters for Senator John Tower was destroyed by fire. Fire Department investigators found no evidence of an incendiary device in the debris. The fire marshal in Austin reported the fire was apparently accidental and began on the second floor where flammable liquids used in duplicating machines by the campaign staff had soaked into the carpet and probably created volatile gases.

- Tolson _____
- Felt _____
- Campbell _____
- Rosen _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Miller, E.S. _____
- Callahan _____
- Casper _____
- Conrad _____
- Dalbey _____
- Cleveland _____
- Ponder _____
- Bates _____
- Waikart _____
- Walters _____
- Soyars _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAILED 5
MAY 12 1972
FBI

MAIL ROOM ☒

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

EFJ
RJD

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 11 1972

TELETYPE

NR 007 SA PLAIN

10:30 PM NITEL 5-11-72 DET

TO ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, SAN ANTONIO (174-646) (C)

1P

Mr. Tolson	b6
Mr. Felt	b7C
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Miller, ES	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Dalbey	
Mr. Cleveland	
Mr. Ponder	
Mr. Bates	
Mr. Walkart	
Mr. Walters	
Mr. Soyars	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

FIRE OF MYSTERIOUS ORIGIN, CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS,

U. S. SENATOR JOHN TOWER, ONE FIVE ZERO ZERO GUADALUPE,

AUSTIN, TEXAS, NIGHT OF MAY NINE - TEN, SEVENTYTWO. EID.

RESANTEL MAY TEN LAST.

ON MAY ELEVEN INSTANT, [REDACTED] FIRE MARSHAL,

FIRE DEPARTMENT, AUSTIN, ADVISED INVESTIGATION CONCERNING

CAPTIONED FIRE IS CONTINUING. HE STATED IT WILL BE

SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE IT IS ASCERTAINED IF THE BLAZE WAS
CAUSED BY ARSON.

IN VIEW OF ABOVE, SAN ANTONIO IS CLOSING THIS CASE.

IN EVENT CAPTIONED FIRE WAS DUE TO ARSON AND RELATED
TO ESCALATION OF THE WAR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AN APPROPRIATE
CASE WILL BE OPENED AND BUREAU ADVISED.

END

ACK FOR FIVE TELS

HOLD

MRF FBI WA DC

REC-19

6 MAY 15 1972

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

NITEL

1 - FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

5/24/72

TO: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (176-646)

FROM: ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI

MAY 24 1972

TELETYPE

FIRE AT CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS, U.S. SENATOR JOHN TOWER, ONE FIVE ZERO ZERO GUADALUPE, AUSTIN, TEXAS, MAY NINE - TEN, SEVENTY-TWO, EID. REURTELS MAY TEN AND ELEVEN LAST AND YOUR AIRTEL MAY EIGHTEEN LAST ENCLOSING LHM.

DEPARTMENT HAS ADVISED ONE (FNU) MEMBER OF SENATOR TOWER'S CAMPAIGN STAFF AT AUSTIN, REPORTEDLY HAS INFORMATION RELATING TO INSTANT MATTER AND PLANS TO CONTACT YOUR OFFICE ON MAY TWENTY-FIVE NEXT. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED ADVICE AS TO INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE FURNISHED BY

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF SHOULD BE SUBMITTED PROMPTLY BY LHM.

IF DOES NOT CONTACT YOUR OFFICE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAY TWENTY-SIX NEXT ADVISE BUREAU BY TELETYPE. 174-3082-5

RJD:lac (3)

EX-109

REC-7

19 MAY 25 1972

NOTE: Fire of unknown origin destroyed building in Austin, Texas, which housed the campaign headquarters of Senator John Tower (R-Tex) who is campaigning for re-election. No investigation was requested by Department and local authorities indicated fire possibly caused by accidental means.

Above information and request furnished 5/24/72 by Criminal Division. advised above information furnished to Department through Department Congressional Liaison. also advised that advice as to whether or not contacts our San Antonio Office is desired by the Department so that a decision may be made as to whether or not the Bureau may be requested to locate him for interview if he fails to appear as indicated.

Felt _____
Mohr _____
Rosen _____
Bates _____
Bishop _____
Callahan _____
Campbell _____
Casper _____
Cleveland _____
Conrad _____
Dalbey _____
Miller, E.S. _____
Ponder _____
Soyars _____
Waikart _____
Walters _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

54 JUN 6 1972

MAIL ROOM ☐TELETYPE UNIT ☐

UNRECORDED COPY FILED

67-106998-

AG

G2A

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 26 1972

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	b6
Mr. Felt	b7c
Mr. Campbell	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Miller	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Dalbey	
Mr. Cleveland	
Mr. Ponder	
Mr. Bates	
Mr. Wainwright	
Mr. Walters	
Mr. Soyars	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

NR 004 SA PLAIN
9:29 PM NITEL 5-26-72 JCS
TO ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, SAN ANTONIO (174-646) (C)

FIRE AT CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS, U. S. SENATOR JOHN TOWER,
MAY NINE-TEN, LAST. EID.

RE BUREAU NITEL, MAY TWENTYFOUR LAST.

NO ONE BY NAME OF [] HAS CONTACTED AUSTIN RESIDENT
AGENCY OR SAN ANTONIO OFFICE RELATIVE TO CAPTIONED MATTER
BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAY TWENTYSIX, INSTANT.

END

REC-1
FBI

174-3082-6

5 MAY 30 1972

Mr. Tolson, CD, advised.
No further investigation
described by [] per
[] 5/30/72 RVD

51 JUN 5 1972